

**COMMITTEE ON RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE
OF THE
JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES**

August 12, 2011

TO THE BENCH, BAR, AND PUBLIC:

Proposed Rules and Forms Amendments

The Judicial Conference Advisory Committees on the Appellate, Bankruptcy, Civil, Criminal, and Evidence Rules have proposed amendments to their respective rules and requested that the proposals be circulated to the bench, bar, and public for comment. The proposed amendments, rules committee reports explaining the proposed changes, and other information are posted on the Judiciary's *Federal Rulemaking* website at <<http://www.uscourts.gov/rules>>. The Advisory Committees welcome comment on all aspects of each proposal.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Please provide any comments on the proposed amendments, whether favorable, adverse, or otherwise, as soon as possible. **The comment deadline is February 15, 2012.** All comments, including suggestions or other correspondence, may be submitted electronically to <Rules_Comments@ao.uscourts.gov> or in hard copy to the Secretary of the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, Washington, D.C. 20544. The Advisory Committees will review all timely comments. All comments are made part of the official record and are available to the public.

The Advisory Committees on the Appellate, Bankruptcy, Civil, Criminal, and Evidence Rules will hold public hearings on the proposed amendments on the following dates:

- Appellate Rules in Columbus, Ohio, on January 31, 2012, and in Washington, D.C., on February 3, 2012;
- Bankruptcy Rules in Washington, D.C., on January 13, 2012, and in Chicago, Illinois, on February 10, 2012;
- Civil Rules in Washington, D.C., on November 7, 2011, in Phoenix, Arizona, on January 4, 2012, and in Chicago, Illinois, on January 27, 2012;
- Criminal Rules in Phoenix, Arizona, on January 6, 2012, and in Washington, D.C., on February 6, 2012; and
- Evidence Rules in Phoenix, Arizona, on January 7, 2012, and in Washington, D.C., on January 17, 2012.

If you wish to testify, you must contact the Committee Secretary at the above address **at least 30 days before the hearing.**

Memorandum to Bench, Bar, and Public

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After the public comment period, the Advisory Committees will decide whether to submit the proposed amendments to the Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure. At this time, the Standing Committee has not approved these proposed amendments, except to authorize their publication for comment. The proposed amendments have not been submitted to or considered by the Judicial Conference or the Supreme Court.

Lee H. Rosenthal
Chair

Peter G. McCabe
Secretary